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Arizona Corporation Commission

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## BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION Comprisoror

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KRISTIN K. MAYES - Chairman **GARY PIERCE** 

PAUL NEWMAN

SANDRA D. KENNEDY

**BOB STUMP** 

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF FAR WEST WATER & SEWER COMPANY FOR A DETERMINATION OF THE FAIR VALUE OF ITS SEWER UTILITY PLANT AND PROPERTY

AND FOR INCREASES IN ITS RATES.

DOCKET NO. WS-03478A-08-0454

PROCEDURAL ORDER

## BY THE COMMISSION:

On August 29, 2008, Far West Water & Sewer Company ("Far West" or "Company") filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") an application for a rate increase for its sewer utility service ("Permanent Rate Case").

On December 19, 2008, Far West filed an emergency application for the immediate implementation of interim rates for sewer service, which rates, if granted, would be effective until a decision has been issued on the Company's Permanent Rate Case. See Docket No. WS-03478A-08-00608. By Procedural Order dated January 26, 2009 the procedural schedule in the Permanent Rate Case was suspended pending the completion of the emergency application.

The Commission denied the emergency rate request at on Open Meeting on December 16, 2009. A Procedural Conference for the purpose of re-establishing the procedural schedule in the Permanent Rate Case convened on January 20, 2010.

At the January 20, 2010 Procedural Conference, Far West was represented by new counsel, who requested another Procedural Conference in 6 to 8 weeks to allow him to meet with his client and with counsel for Staff and the Residential Utility Consumer Office ("RUCO") with the hope of developing a joint proposal for moving forward with a permanent rate case. No party objected to the proposed Procedural Conference. In addition, Staff noted that the Company has not paid its annual assessment to the Commission and requested an update on the Company's attempts to obtain capital to complete its sewer plant.

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1 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that a **Procedural Conference** for the purpose of discussing the schedule in a Permanent Rate Case shall commence on March 24, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., or as soon 3 thereafter as is practical, at the Commission's offices, Room 222, 400 West Congress, Tucson, 4 Arizona 85701. 5 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Far West shall file a status report addressing the payment 6 of its annual assessment to the Commission and its ability to obtain capital for the completion of its 7 sewer project by February 4, 2010. 8 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Ex Parte Rule (A.A.C. R14-3-113-Unauthorized 9 Communications) continues to apply to this proceeding and shall remain in effect until the 10 Commission's Decision in this matter is final and non-appealable. 11 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Presiding Officer may rescind, alter, amend, or waive 12 any portion of this Procedural Order either by subsequent Procedural Order or by ruling at hearing. 13 DATED this  $2\sqrt{9}$  day of January, 2010. 14 15 16 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE 17 Copies of the foregoing mailed this 21st day of January, 2010 to: 18 Steve Olea, Director Craig A. Marks 19 Craig A. Marks, PLC **Utilities Division** 10645 N. Tatum Blvd. Arizona Corporation Commission 20 1200 W. Washington Street Suite 200-676 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 Phoenix, Arizona 85028 21 Attorney for Far West Water & Sewer Arizona Reporting Service, Inc. 22 Michelle Wood 2200 N. Central Avenue, Suite 502 Residential Utility Consumer Office Phoenix, Arizona 85004-1481 23 1110 West Washington, Suite 220 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 24 Tunk Kodela Sane Rogida Janice Alward, Chief Counsel 25 LEGAL DIVISION Arizona Corporation Commission 26 1200 W. Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007 27

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